1   <u>Claims</u>:

2   1.   A computer program product storing computer
3   instructions therein for instructing a computer to
4   perform a process for automatically determining a
5   machine implemented estimated value of an intellectual
6   property portfolio, the program product comprising:
7   a recording medium readable by the computer; and
8   the computer instructions stored on said recording
9   medium instructing the computer to perform the process,
10   the instructions including:
11   (a) storing first objectively determinable
12   characteristics of representative intellectual
13   property portfolios and objectively determinable
14   values corresponding to each of the representative
15   intellectual property portfolios, the first
16   objectively determinable characteristics and the
17   objectively determinable values forming a baseline
18   against which to assess the estimated value of the
19   intellectual property portfolio;
20   (b) analyzing the intellectual property
21   portfolio to determine second objectively
22   determinable characteristics of the intellectual
23   property portfolio to be estimated;
24   (c) deriving first information representing
25   the second objectively determinable
26   characteristics of the intellectual property
27   portfolio to be estimated responsive to said
28   analyzing step (b);
29   (d) retrieving second information
30   representing the first objectively determinable

characteristics and the objectively determinable values of the representative intellectual property portfolios; and

(e) comparing the first information received from said deriving step (c) to the second information received from said retrieving step (d) producing an estimated value of the intellectual property portfolio when the first information of the intellectual property portfolio is statistically similar to the second information of one of the representative intellectual property portfolios.

2. An computer program product according to claim 1, wherein the intellectual property portfolio comprises at least one of patented, trademarked and copyrighted intellectual property.

3. An computer program product according to claim 1, wherein at least one of a patent database, a trademark database, a copyright database, a legal reporter database, a current events database and an intellectual property status database are utilized to determine the machine implemented estimated value of the intellectual property portfolio.

4. An computer program product according to claim 1,
wherein the intellectual property portfolio comprises a patent portfolio including patents, and
wherein the first objectively determinable

1   characteristics includes patent information derived

2   from the patents in the patent portfolio comprising at

3   least one of the following: number of claims, length of

4   independent claims, number and dates of references

5   cited, number of classes searched, legal status of the

6   patents, number of years until each of the patents

7   expire, group which examined each of the patents,

8   domestic priority, and foreign priority.

9   5.   An computer program product according to

10   claim 4, wherein the patent information further

11   includes frequency with which the patents have been

12   cited as references for other patents.

1   6.   An computer program product according to
2 claim 1, further comprising the instruction of weighing
3 each of the first and second objectively determinable
4 characteristics according to predetermined weighing
5 factors producing weighed first and second objectively
6 determinable characteristics, and
7   comparing the weighed first and second objectively
8 determinable characteristics to determine the
9 statistical similarity between the weighed first and
10 second objectively determinable characteristics.

11   7.   An computer program product according to
12 claim 1,
13   wherein the intellectual property portfolio
14 includes issued patents, and at least one of trademarks
15 and copyrights, and
16   wherein the first objectively determinable
17 characteristics are derived by analyzing the issued
18 patents, and the at least one of trademarks and
19 copyrights.

20   8.   An computer program product according to
21 claim 1, wherein the estimated value of the
22 intellectual property portfolio is derived
23 independently of accounting valuation techniques
24 including cost, market and income approaches.

25   9.   An computer program product according to
26 claim 1, wherein the first information of the
27 intellectual property portfolio is determined to be
28 statistically similar to the second information of one

1   of the representative intellectual property portfolios

2   utilizing at least one of a curve fitting technique and

3   a standard deviation technique.

4   10. An computer program product according to

5   claim 1,

6   wherein the first objectively determinable

7   characteristics include first valuation indicators,

8   wherein the first valuation indicators are

9   assigned an importance factor based upon predetermined

10   criteria, and

11   wherein the first valuation indicators are

12   compared to the second objectively determinable

13   characteristics and the estimated value of the

14   intellectual property portfolio is determined

15   responsive to the importance factor of each of the

16   valuation indicators.

17   11. An computer program product according to

18   claim 1, wherein the objectively determinable values of

19   the representative intellectual property portfolios

20   include objectively determinable monetary values which

21   are not determined by said computer program product.

1 12. An computer program product according to
2 claim 10, wherein the objectively determinable monetary
3 values of the representative intellectual property
4 portfolios are determined by at least one of prior
5 adjudication, prior license values, prior purchase
6 values and an accountant evaluation based upon
7 generally acceptable accounting procedures (GAAP) of
8 the representative intellectual property portfolios.

9 13. A computer program product storing computer
10 instructions therein for instructing a computer to
11 perform a process for automatically determining a
12 machine implemented estimated value of an intellectual
13 property portfolio, the program product comprising:
14 a recording medium readable by the computer; and
15 the computer instructions stored on said recording
16 medium instructing the computer to perform the process,
17 the instructions including:
18 (a) analyzing the intellectual property
19 portfolio;
20 (b) deriving first information responsive to
21 said analyzing step (a) based upon the
22 intellectual property portfolio;
23 (c) retrieving empirical data relating to
24 known intellectual property portfolios; and
25 (d) comparing the first information derived
26 in said deriving step (b) to the empirical data
27 retrieved from said retrieving step (c) producing
28 an intellectual property worth indicator
29 indicating the worth of the intellectual property
30 portfolio.

14. A computer program product storing computer instructions therein for instructing a computer to perform a process for automatically determining a machine implemented estimated value of an intellectual property portfolio, the program product comprising:

a recording medium readable by the computer; and

the computer instructions stored on said recording medium instructing the computer to perform the process, the instructions including:

(a) analyzing the intellectual property portfolio stored in an intellectual property database;

(b) deriving first information responsive to said analyzing step (a) based upon the intellectual property portfolio;

(c) retrieving empirical data relating to known intellectual property portfolios; and

(d) comparing the first information derived in said deriving step (b) to the empirical data retrieved from said retrieving step (c) producing an intellectual property worth indicator indicating the worth of the intellectual property portfolio,

wherein the intellectual property database includes at least one of a patent database, a trademark database, a copyright database, a legal reporter database, a current events database and an intellectual property status database.